GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1291
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2000
ARECANUT GROWERS
T. GOVINDAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Arecanut growers are facing crisis due to reduction in price on account of smuggling from Sri Lanka via Nepal which has affected adversely the Indian domestic market; and

(b) if so, the action taken to protect the farmers in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a) & (b): Arecanut growers faced a problem due to decline in prices. The import of Arecanut was negligible. Decline in prices is attributed to increased production and not due to import. However, to safeguard the interest of arecanut growers, the Government have already raised import duty from 35% to 100%. The Finance Ministry has alsoissued instructions to customs officials to prevent the illegal entry of Arecaunt in the country.